

Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY
PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS
GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



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Kennedy's vaccine advisers change COVID shot guidance, calling them an individual choice

By MIKE STOBBE and LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s new vaccine advisers added confusion Friday to this fall's COVID-19 vaccinations — declining to recommend them for anyone and leaving the choice up to those who want a shot.

Until now, the vaccinations had been recommended as a routine step in the fall for nearly all Americans who wanted them — just like a yearly flu vaccine.

The Food and Drug Administration already had placed new restrictions on this year's shots from Pfizer, Moderna and Novavax, reserving them for people over 65 or younger ones who are deemed at higher risk from the virus.

In a series of votes Friday, advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention took the unprecedented step of not recommending them even for high-risk populations like seniors instead deciding that people could make individual decisions.

The panel also urged the



Committee member, Dr. Joseph Hibbeln, listens during a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices at the CDC on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025, in Chamblee, Ga.

Associated Press

CDC to adopt stronger language around claims of vaccine risks, despite pushback from outside medical groups who said the shots had a proven safety record from the billions of doses administered worldwide.

The divided panel narrowly avoided urging states to require a prescription for the shot.

Dr. Sean O'Leary of the

American Academy of Pediatrics said the panel's daylong debate involved clear efforts to "sow distrust" about vaccines and would have "real-time impacts on American children."

But he expressed relief that people could instead follow guidelines from his and other medical groups that still recommend the vac-

cines be available like in prior years.

"It was a very, very strange meeting," O'Leary said.

Several states have announced policies to try to assure that access, worried about Friday's decision. And a group representing most health insurers, America's Health Insurance Plans, said earlier this week that its members will con-

tinuing covering the shots through 2026.

The COVID-19 vaccines are not perfect, but CDC data shows they provide the strongest protection against severe infection and death, even if people still become infected. Likewise, people can get COVID-19 repeatedly as the virus continues to evolve.

Like flu vaccines, COVID-19 shots now are being updated yearly, but only about 44% of seniors and 13% of children were up-to-date on the coronavirus vaccinations last year, the CDC said.

Among many unproven questions about risks that the panel raised Friday was one rare side effect that people already are warned about: a kind of heart inflammation called myocarditis, mostly in young men, that was discovered in the early days of vaccination in 2021.

A scientist studying whether people with certain genes are uniquely susceptible to that risk told the panel the Trump administration had canceled his grant before the research could be finished. □

Judge blocks USDA from collecting data about SNAP applicants in 21 states

By REBECCA BOONE
Associated Press

A judge has temporarily barred the federal government from collecting personal information about residents enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in 21 states and Washington, D.C.

U.S. District Judge Maxine Chesney in California issued the temporary restraining order against the U.S. Department of Agriculture on Thursday, and said a hearing would be held next month to determine if a longer-term prohibition is necessary.

Chesney found that states were likely to succeed in their argument that the personal data can only be used for things like adminis-

tering the food assistance program, and that it generally can't be shared with other entities.

The states said they feared that the data would be

used to aid mass deportation efforts.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, is a social safety net that serves more than 42

million people nationwide. Under the program formerly known as food stamps, the federal government pays 100% of the food benefits, while the states determine who is eligible for the benefits and then issue them to enrollees.

The Trump administration has worked to collect data on millions of U.S. residents through various federal agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, sharing the information with the Department of Homeland Security to support deportation efforts.

The USDA warned states in July that if they failed to turn over the information about people enrolled in the federal food assistance

program, SNAP funding would be cut off.

In response, the coalition of states sued, saying they feared the data would be used to aid mass deportations.

They told the judge that the federal SNAP Act requires states to safeguard the information they receive from SNAP applicants, only releasing it for limited purposes related to administering or enforcing the food assistance program.

In Thursday's ruling, Chesney said the states' argument was likely to succeed, and that the USDA had already announced it planned to share the data with other entities and use it for purposes not allowed by the SNAP Act. □



Jaqueline Benitez, who depends on California's SNAP benefits to help pay for food, shops for groceries at a supermarket in Bellflower, Calif., Feb. 13, 2023.

Associated Press

House approves resolution honoring Charlie Kirk with dozens of Democrats opposed

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House overwhelmingly passed a resolution honoring conservative activist Charlie Kirk on Friday, but a significant number of Democrats voted against it, highlighting the deepening political divide in the wake of his assassination.

The resolution, which praised “the life and legacy” of Kirk, passed the Republican-controlled House with 310 votes in favor. While 95 Democrats supported the resolution, 58 voted against it and 38 voted “present,” effectively abstaining. Republicans had warned ahead of the vote that no one should oppose the measure, but many Democrats said they felt Kirk’s death had been politicized and the resolution elevated views they disagreed with.

“Today’s resolution underscores the majority’s recklessness by choosing to author this condemnation and honoring on a purely partisan basis,” said Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, a high-profile Democrat who voted



Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, R-La., right, joined by Majority Leader Steve Scalise, R-La., center left, leads a vigil to honor conservative activist Charlie Kirk who was shot and killed at an event in Utah last week, at the Capitol in Washington, Monday, Sept. 15, 2025.

Associated Press

against the resolution. “We should be clear about who Charlie Kirk was.”

Speaker Mike Johnson said there was “no partisan language” in the resolution and there was “no excuse” for anyone not to vote in favor of it.

“We are honoring someone who contributed greatly to the free marketplace of ideas and public discourse

and who died in a disgraceful, horrific manner,” Johnson told reporters.

The vote capped a week of heightened tensions in Congress and across a nation grappling with Kirk’s assassination and the legacy he left behind. Many on the right have blamed the left for fostering a political climate that led to his death, pushing for more than con-

demnation and allowing little room for criticism of his views. In the days since, backlash to such criticism has led to firings ranging from teachers to journalists as conservative activists have launched aggressive pressure campaigns.

“No single member of the House Democratic caucus, not a single member, condones political violence in

America,” House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said Friday.

Still, Democrats who voted against the measure were heavily criticized.

“Who could vote against that?” President Donald Trump said Friday afternoon about the resolution. Earlier this week, the House narrowly declined to punish one of its own over commentary in the aftermath of Charlie Kirk’s assassination. The Republican effort to censure Rep. Ilhan Omar came after she criticized Kirk’s views of gun ownership and race relations in the aftermath of George Floyd’s 2020 death in Minneapolis. After the vote fell short, Trump responded by calling Omar “terrible.”

While Friday’s resolution aimed to honor Kirk and denounce political violence, many Democrats took issue with its language. The text described Kirk, the founder of Turning Point USA, as someone who was “seeking to elevate truth, foster understanding, and strengthen the Republic,” and that he stood “as a model for young Americans.” □

Trump administration threatens further sanctions in escalating fight with Harvard

By MORIAH BALINGIT

AP Education Writer

The Trump administration escalated its fight with Harvard University on Friday, placing the Ivy League school under extra financial oversight and threatening sanctions if it does not provide additional data on its admissions practices.

Education Secretary Linda McMahon said the department was placing Harvard under “heightened cash monitoring,” forcing the school to use its own money to pay out financial aid for students and then seek reimbursement from the government.

She also threatened “further enforcement action” if the school does not turn

over records to prove it no longer is considering race in admissions.

Harvard did not respond to a request for comment.

The moves are part of the administration’s crack-down on Harvard as President Donald Trump seeks to eradicate what he describes as liberal bias at colleges around the country. Since taking office, Trump has used the Education Department in unprecedented ways, cutting federal research grants for schools that do not accede to his administration’s demands and pressing colleges into paying large cash settlements to end federal investigations.

At Harvard, the Trump ad-

ministration cut off \$2.6 billion in federal research funding from the school after it spurned administration demands for sweeping changes to its governance and student disciplinary policy.

In a lawsuit filed by Harvard, a federal judge this month ordered the government to restore the funding, saying the administration had engaged in “a targeted, ideologically-motivated assault on this country’s premier universities.” On Friday, the Department of Health and Human Services unfroze \$46 million in research funding for Harvard, the university said.

The Education Department is also investigating Harvard’s admission prac-

tices as part of a wider effort to compel universities to prove that they are not using race to evaluate applicants.

It says Harvard has not met all of its demands for information about its applicants and admitted students. □



People take photos near a John Harvard statue, left, on the Harvard University campus, Jan. 2, 2024, in Cambridge, Mass.

Associated Press

More than 400 arrests made in Chicago area operation so far, top immigration official says

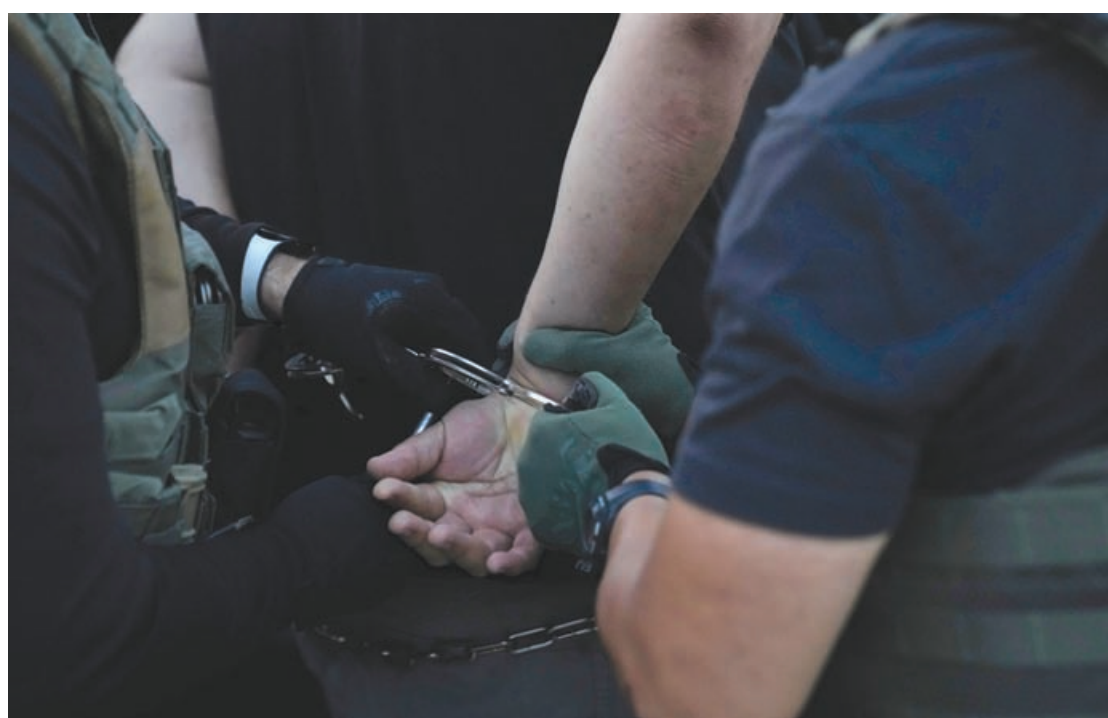
By REBECCA SANTANA
Associated Press

PARK RIDGE, Ill. (AP) — Immigration enforcement officials have arrested more than 400 people as part of an operation in the Chicago area that launched a little less than two weeks ago, a top Immigration and Customs Enforcement official said Friday.

Marcos Charles, the acting head of ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations, gave the figures during an interview with The Associated Press. The figure, which has not been widely reported, offers an early gauge of what is shaping up as a major enforcement effort that comes after similar operations were launched in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

When asked whether he thought that amount of arrests at this point in the operation was positive, Charles said 400 is a "solid number," adding that the figure includes arrests made by other federal agencies besides ICE who are assisting in the campaign.

"We're going to be conducting this operation until we feel that we've been successful," he said.



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents make an arrest during an early morning operation in Park Ridge, Ill., Friday, Sept. 19, 2025.

Associated Press

"There's not an end date in sight."

ICE launched its Chicago area operation dubbed "Midway Blitz" on Sept. 8, drawing concern from activists and immigrant communities who say there's been a noticeable uptick in immigration enforcement agents. That has deepened dread in communities already fearful of the large-scale arrests or aggressive tactics used in

other cities targeted by President Donald Trump's hardline immigration policies.

The operation has brought allegations of excessive force and heavy-handed dragnets that have ensnared U.S. citizens, while gratifying Trump supporters who say he is delivering on a promise of mass deportations.

The Trump administration has promised to send an

influx of immigration agents and National Guard troops to Chicago, over the fierce objections of local leaders and residents. A military deployment to Chicago has yet to materialize even as immigration enforcement operations continue. Officials and activists in the Chicago area opposed to the enforcement surge argue the approach is dangerous and imprecise, pointing to accounts of

two U.S. citizens who were briefly detained this week by federal officers focused on immigration enforcement. Advocates also have protested the death of a man shot by an ICE officer on Sept. 12 after authorities said he tried to flee during a traffic stop, dragging the officer.

Charles said roughly 50% to 60% of the Chicago operation arrests were targeted arrests, meaning they were specific people that ICE was trying to find because they had committed a crime, had a final order of removal or had done something that put them on ICE's radar.

The rest were what's often referred to as "collateral arrests," meaning people that ICE comes across during their operations who aren't the person they're looking for but are in the country illegally, so ICE can arrest them.

Collateral arrests were not allowed during the Biden administration but the Trump administration threw out those restrictions almost immediately after coming into office as part of Trump's efforts to beef up deportations. □

Officials find remains they believe are Travis Decker, wanted in killings of his 3 young daughters

LEAVENWORTH, Wash. (AP) — Authorities say they have found remains they believe are Travis Decker, an ex-sol-

dier wanted in the deaths of his three daughters, in the mountains of Washington state.



Pictures, flowers and candles mark a makeshift memorial, June 3, 2025, in Wenatchee, Wash., in honor of Olivia, Paityn and Evelyn Decker, who were found dead near Leavenworth after their father Travis Decker failed to return them after a scheduled visitation.

Associated Press

The Chelan County Sheriff's Office said in a statement Thursday that it was processing the site with the help of the Washington State Patrol crime scene response team. They will follow up with DNA analysis, it said.

"While positive identification has not yet been confirmed, preliminary findings suggest the remains belong to Travis Decker," the statement said.

Decker, 32, has been wanted since June 2, when a sheriff's deputy found his truck and the bodies of his three daughters 9-year-old Paityn Decker, 8-year-old Evelyn Decker and 5-year-old Olivia Decker at a campground outside Leavenworth.

Three days earlier he failed to return the girls to their mother's home in Wenatchee, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) east of Seattle, following a scheduled visit.

Decker was an infantryman in the Army from March 2013 to July 2021 and deployed to Afghanistan for four months in 2014. He had training in navigation, survival and other skills, authorities said, and once spent more than two months living in the backwoods off the grid.

More than 100 officials with an array of state and federal agencies searched hundreds of square miles, much of it mountainous and remote, by land, water and air during the on

and off search. The U.S. Marshals Service offered a reward of up to \$20,000 for information leading to his capture.

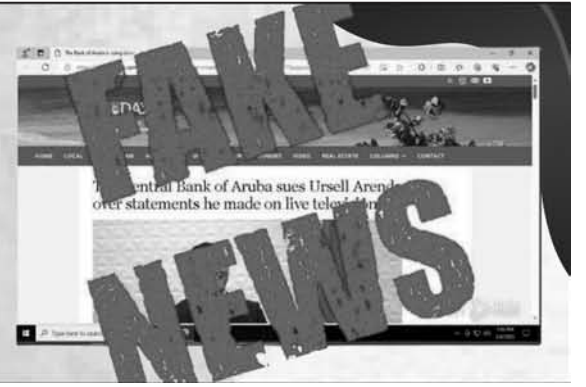
Last September, Decker's ex-wife, Whitney Decker, wrote in a petition to modify their parenting plan that his mental health issues had worsened and that he had become increasingly unstable. He was often living out of his truck, and she sought to restrict him from having overnight visits with their daughters until he found housing.

An autopsy determined the girls' cause of death to be suffocation, the sheriff's office said. They had been bound with zip ties and had plastic bags placed over their heads. □

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The Iranian flag flies in front of a U.N. building where closed-door nuclear talks take place at the International Center in Vienna, Austria, on June 18, 2014.

Associated Press

U.N. Security Council votes against lifting Iran 'snapback' sanctions ahead of deadline

By FARNOUSH AMIRI
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A U.N. Security Council resolution aimed at halting the reimposition of sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program failed Friday after weeks of last-ditch diplomatic talks appeared to break down days before the annual United Nations gathering of world leaders. The resolution put forth by South Korea, the current president of the 15-member council, did not garner the support of the nine countries required to halt the series of sanctions from taking effect at the end of the month, as outlined in Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. Only four countries — China, Russia, Pakistan and Algeria — supported the effort, with some using the meeting to blast the European leaders for what they called an unjustified and illegal action against Iran. France, Germany and the United Kingdom moved last month to trigger the "snapback mechanism," which automatically reimposes all U.N. sanctions that were in effect before the nuclear deal. Those penalties included a conventional arms embargo, restrictions on ballistic missile development, asset freezes, travel bans and a ban on producing nuclear-related technology. The Islamic Republic already is reeling from

a 12-day war with Israel and a decades-long financial crisis.

Using the snapback mechanism will likely heighten tensions between Iran and the West. It's unclear how Iran will respond, given that in the past, officials have threatened to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, potentially following North Korea, which abandoned the treaty in 2003 and then built atomic weapons. Iran's Foreign Ministry, in a statement on Friday, emphasized its commitment to safeguarding its interests and rights, including through diplomacy, and said it reserves the right to respond appropriately to any unlawful action.

Before the vote, Vassily Nebenzia, the Russian ambassador to the U.N., said the Europeans were using the council as "a tool for their bad faith play, as a lever to exert pressure on the state in favor of a state which is trying to defend its sovereign interests."

The Chinese envoy echoed that sentiment, saying the council's action has managed to bring a "definitive" end to eight years of diplomacy with "one stroke."

Iranian ambassador Amir-Saeid Iravani thanked his four colleagues for voting in favor of lifting the sanctions and rejecting "the blunt instrument of pressure and intimidation." □



People displaced by gang violence spend time at a makeshift shelter in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

Haitian gang attacks town, kills teacher, kidnaps residents and burns buildings

By EVENS SANON
Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A Haitian gang attacked a small town northwest of Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince, killing, kidnapping and burning down buildings as gang violence devours the Caribbean nation.

Gunmen opened fire on the streets of Bassin Bleu around noon on Thursday, killing at least one high school teacher, according to local leader Rodlet Jean Baptiste, speaking on Radio Caraibes.

The surge of violence stirred panic in the community as gang members burned the police station and several public and private buildings and looted a credit union. Baptiste blamed the attack on the gang Kokorat San Ras, which has a firm grip on the region. Haitian National Police did not immediately respond to a request for comment and more information on the attack.

According to a recent report by the United Nations, "Kokorat San Ras, despite its limited numbers, is also a very brutal gang" that operates in the Artibonite region. Its roughly 20 members have "committed acts of extreme violence, forcing people to abandon large areas of cropland and threatening agricultural production."

It was the first attack of this scale in the community, which has largely gone untouched by spiraling gang violence plaguing Haiti. Such brutal attacks on rural communities have grown increasingly common as gangs have gradually expanded their control across the country. Just last week, gunmen threw a molotov cocktail into an police armored vehicle, killing three people outside the capital. And days before that dozens of people were massacred in a small fishing village, something a local official said "highlights the urgent need for effective state intervention." □

EU chief urges bloc members to sanction Russia's LNG exports

By **LORNE COOK**
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union should slap new sanctions on Russia's exports of liquefied natural gas, its shadow fleet of aging oil tankers and major energy companies over its war on Ukraine, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said on Friday.

"It is time to turn off the tap" on LNG, von der Leyen said in a video statement outlining her commission's new sanctions proposals. They must be endorsed by the 27 EU countries before they can enter force.

"I now call on member states to quickly endorse these new sanctions. We want Russia to leave the battlefield and come to the negotiation table, and this is the way to give peace a real chance," she said.

The bloc has already agreed on 18 packages of sanctions against Russia, but getting final agreement on who and what to target can take weeks.

More than 2,500 "entities" including banks, ministries, energy companies and officials have already been



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen delivers a major state of the union speech at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025.

Associated Press

hit.

The officials include President Vladimir Putin and his associates, scores of Russian lawmakers and several oligarchs. Travel bans and asset freezes are the most common measures.

Energy revenue is the linchpin of Russia's economy, allowing Putin to pour money into the armed forces without worsening inflation

for everyday people and avoiding a currency collapse.

Von der Leyen insisted that EU sanctions are having an impact. "Russia's overheated war economy is coming to its limit," she said, noting in particular constant high inflation in Russia.

In a separate statement, EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said the aim is to

usher in "a full prohibition of Russian LNG imports by January 2027."

Europe is the biggest buyer of Russia's LNG cargoes, taking about half of what Russia exports. Russian LNG took up about 16% of the EU's total LNG imports last year. EU members Hungary and Slovakia have opposed any phase out and could pose an obstacle to

the sanctions move.

The commission also proposed targeting 118 additional vessels from Russia's shadow fleet of ships transporting oil, bringing the total hit to over 560.

"Major energy trading companies Rosneft and Gazprom Neft will now be on a full transaction ban, and other companies will also come under an asset freeze" if the measures are endorsed, the head of the EU's executive branch also said.

Part of the plan would be to go "after those who fuel Russia's war by purchasing oil in breach of the sanctions," she said. Von der Leyen said that the commission wants to "target refineries, oil traders, petrochemical companies and third countries including China." The sanctions would also include export restrictions on "items and technologies" that can be used on the battlefield. A further 45 companies in Russia and elsewhere would be hit, for "providing direct or indirect support to the Russian military industrial complex," the commission president said. □

Hezbollah leader calls for 'new page' with Saudi Arabia as regional tensions escalate

By **BASSEM MROUE**
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah group on Friday called on Saudi Arabia to "open a new page" after years of tension and animosity, saying that the weapons of the Iran-backed group are directed toward Israel and not the oil-rich kingdom. Naim Kassem's comments came in the wake of rising regional tensions following this month's Israeli strike on energy-rich Qatar, a neighbor of Saudi Arabia. The Sept. 2 strike hit the headquarters of Hamas' political leadership killing six people. It was not immediately clear how Saudi Arabia, which lists Hezbollah as a terrorist organization, would respond to Kassem's proposal.

The tension between Saudi Arabia and Hezbollah is part of the yearslong struggle between the kingdom and Iran, the main backer of the Lebanese militant

group a rivalry that has often spilled into countries including Lebanon, Yemen, and Syria. Relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia remain cold despite

an agreement reached in China in March 2023 to restore diplomatic relations.

"I call on Saudi Arabia to open a new page with the resistance," Kassem said in a televised speech Friday afternoon. He added that a dialogue between the two sides should be based on the basis that "Israel is the enemy and not the resistance."

Kassem added that putting pressure on Hezbollah serves Israel and argued that if militant groups are defeated, other regional countries would be next to be targeted by Israel.

Earlier this week, Saudi Arabia and nuclear-armed Pakistan signed a mutual defense pact that defines any attack on either nation as an attack on both a key accord in the wake of Isra-

el's strike on Qatar.

Relations between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia hit a low point in 2021 when the kingdom recalled its ambassador from Beirut and banned Lebanese imports over allegations that they were being used to smuggle drugs. The ambassador later returned to Beirut but the ban on imports remains in place. Verbal attacks between the kingdom and Hezbollah have decreased over the past two years. During a harsh war of words Saudi officials and media referred to Hezbollah as a terrorist organization and accused it of exporting drugs to oil-rich countries. In response, Hezbollah officials blasted the kingdom, blaming it for spreading extremist Islamic ideology in the Middle East. □



People listen in Dahiyeh, a southern suburb of Beirut, Lebanon, as Hezbollah leader Naim Kassem delivers a televised speech Wednesday, July 30, 2025, during a commemoration marking the first anniversary of the death of top Hezbollah commander Foad Shukur, who was killed in an Israeli airstrike.

Associated Press

Meet Aruba's biggest hero, Boy Ecury

(Oranjestad)—As part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and due to its strategic geolocation, Aruba was unexpectedly involved in the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the front line during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Netherlands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heri-

tage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam firsthand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion groups that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hid-

ing, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lannoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.

Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranjehotel" prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was ques-



tioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old.

Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected

a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem. Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor." □

Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.



(Oranjestad)—Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are

Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center.

For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumen-

tenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light.

Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else.

There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good ex-

perience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook.

Philip's Animal Garden

To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. □



DRUNKEN BURGER

CRAVING THE BEST BURGER ON THE ISLAND?

SCAN CODE
FOR MENU





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Drunken Burger: Flip your Expectations



ORANJESTAD – The adventure continues in Drunken Burger with location in the Cove Mall at this establishment is where the creativity rules the grill.

With 21-of -a-kind Burgers, we turn comfort food into a flavor playground. From the outrageous King Kong Burger to the decadent Chicken Alfredo Burger and the fans favorite Spaghetti & Meatball Burger our menu is made for the bold.

Feeling brave? Sink your teeth into Drunken Burger infused with bold Jack Daniel's flavor. It is a true flavor bomb that packs a serious kick.

And also for our gluten-free guests you are more than welcome. Any Burger

can be served as a lettuce burger no bun required.

Vegetarian? We have got you covered too. Try our creamy Risotto Burger, sizzling Veggie Tacos, or flavorful Veggie Fajitas.

But it doesn't stop at burgers our menu also features zesty Mexican favorites, fresh seafood and a crave of worthy pastas.

Whether you are here for a casual bite or a bold culinary adventure one thing is for sure: you won't leave hungry.

"You can taste the meat without eating the bun?" We respectfully disagree. Come ready to indulge explore and enjoy.

Drunken Burger kitchen is daily open from 11am -11pm.



A guide for the perfect picture: Where to find the most Instagrammable places in Oranjestad

(Oranjestad)—Imagine, you're taking a stroll in the city center, and you want to take the most picture-perfect photo to show your friends and family back home and online. It seems like the perfect spot can be hard to find, but Oranjestad is full of great spots for a quick snapshot! Here are



the most Instagrammable places in Oranjestad.

"I LOVE ARUBA"

Right on Paardenbaai Plaza, near the harbor entrance, you will spot a giant sign that reads "I LOVE ARUBA". A great first stop for a quick shot with the family, this spot is among the few that has become a favorite among tourists, especially those that are visiting Aruba through a cruise vacation. Speaking of giant signs that read "Aruba" (because there can never be too many), there is another sign

you can find along the Linear Park, in front of Talk of the Town Hotel. It may be a long walk from the harbor to get there, but while you're at it, check out these other spots along the way!

Wooden Swing on Plaza Daniel Leo

While you're in front of the Renaissance Mall, check out the wooden swing on the other side of the mall on Plaza Daniel Leo. Another favorite among visitors wanting a cute snapshot for Instagram. Just pass through the Renaissance Mall and find

this gem in front of the back entrance!

Since you've made it this far, one question: How many blue horses have you spotted already? Mangel Halto

For a different take on beach photos, we definitely recommend Mangel Halto! You can get in the water right by the roots of these beautiful trees (please be careful not to climb them, though!). You will see beautiful skies, birds and other wildlife, and among the greenery of the mangroves, your picture is

sure to pop!

Renaissance Dock

Last but certainly not least, the Renaissance Dock is the perfect spot to take a beautiful picture, especially at sunset. The dock is located behind the Renaissance Market Place, and runs from the Renaissance Marina up to Renaissance Beach and Wilhelmina Park. This spot offers a gorgeous view of the ocean and sunset, accompanied by the soft waves crashing on the shoreline. You may even spot some iguanas! □

Divi Impact Foundation Marks Leadership Transition After Investing Nearly Afl. 2 Million in Aruba's Community

The Divi Impact Foundation announced today the conclusion of its current Board of Directors' term, as it officially transitions leadership to a newly appointed board. In their final report, President Ricardo Vrolijk proudly highlighted the Foundation's remarkable achievements, including an investment of Afl. 1,936,292.00 between 2021 and August 2025 across key focus areas: *Education & Children, Social/Sports & Elderly Welfare, Animal Welfare, Assistance Within, and Community/Poverty Relief.*

Founded on **September 2, 2010**, the Divi Impact Foundation was established with a vision to enhance the quality of life in Aruba by supporting initiatives that promote children's safety, strengthen families, and increase accessibility to sports, education, and the arts.

The Foundation's impact is made possible through the generosity of hotel employees, matching contributions from Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive Resorts and Divi Resorts Aruba, the **"\$1 A Day" Donation Program** for hotel guests, proceeds from the sale of branded golf balls at The Links Pro Shop, and contributions from RFID bracelet sales.

"We are deeply proud of the legacy this board leaves behind. Every investment—large or small—has strengthened our community and created opportunities for growth and resilience," said **President Ricardo Vrolijk**. "As we pass the torch



to the new board, we remain confident that Divi Impact will continue to make a meaningful difference for Aruba."

The Executive Teams of Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive Resorts and Divi Aruba Resorts applauded the outgoing board's dedication and celebrated

their inspiring contributions to both employees and the wider community.

About Divi Impact Foundation

The Divi Impact Foundation is dedicated to improving quality of life in Aruba through strategic investments in community-focused programs. Since 2010, the Foundation has supported initiatives in education, sports, family welfare, and community resilience, working hand-in-hand with local organizations and stakeholders.



DIVI IMPACT FOUNDATION COMMUNITY INVESTMENT YEARS 2021 THRU YTD AUGUST 2025						
	AMOUNT 2021	AMOUNT 2022	AMOUNT 2023	AMOUNT 2024	AMOUNT 2025 (ytd AUG)	TOTAL
EDUCATION & CHILDREN	AWG 622,207.90	AWG 126,714.53	AWG 75,467.60	AWG 166,705.82	AWG 75,104.63	
SOCIAL, SPORTS & ELDERLY WELFARE	AWG 35,849.20	AWG 47,107.52	AWG 63,706.49	AWG 173,043.40	AWG 9,440.14	
ANIMAL WELFARE	AWG 12,009.66	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 11,000.00	AWG 7,500.00	
ASSISTANCE WITHIN	AWG 48,704.36	AWG 19,019.88	AWG 26,130.01	AWG 17,251.99	AWG 19,212.14	
COMMUNITY ASSITANCE (POVERTY RELIEF) DIVI RESORTS ARUBA	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 315,116.96	AWG 0.00	
COMMUNITY ASSITANCE (POVERTY RELIEF) DIVI AND TAMARIJN AI	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 65,000.00	
TOTAL	AWG 718,771.12	AWG 192,841.93	AWG 165,304.10	AWG 683,116.17	AWG 176,256.91	AWG 1,936,292.23
EDUCATION & CHILDREN						
Back To School/ Scholarship	AWG 62,702.28	AWG 64,625.35	AWG 68,449.80	AWG 53,441.00	AWG 29,663.93	
School Technology: Pius X School Dakota E Boards/ Laptop	AWG 104,099.74	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
School Technology: FAVI Laptops for Visual Impaired Students	AWG 16,020.00	AWG 8,500.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 4,649.00	AWG 0.00	
School Renovation: Pius X School Dakota Building Renovation	AWG 364,900.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
School Renovation: Bon Bini School Bathroom Renovation	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 74,147.82	AWG 0.00	
School Renovation: Skol Santa Jacintha AC Installation	AWG 38,496.06	AWG 45,646.72	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
School Renovation: Skol Basico Washington AC Installation	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 20,834.00	AWG 0.00	
School Education: School Supplies Brighter Future Academy	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 6,364.60	AWG 37,034.34	
School Education: Annual Book Week over 150 schools book distribution	AWG 16,990.10	AWG 6,011.21	AWG 6,067.80	AWG 6,437.45	AWG 7,003.86	
School Education: Arts Development Summer Camp	AWG 17,068.42	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
School Recreation: Special Project Sports Day	AWG 1,931.30	AWG 1,931.25	AWG 950.00	AWG 831.95	AWG 1,402.50	
TOTAL EDUCATION & CHILDREN	AWG 622,207.90	AWG 126,714.53	AWG 75,467.60	AWG 166,705.82	AWG 75,104.63	AWG 1,066,200.48
SOCIAL, SPORTS & ELDERLY WELFARE						
Sports & Health: Sports Uniforms and Equipments (Baseball, Softball, Runner, Taekwondo)	AWG 0.00	AWG 19,493.64	AWG 33,146.49	AWG 43,780.74	AWG 6,565.14	
Community Project: Round About Monument Alhambra Casino and Mall	AWG 17,800.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
Community Relief: Food Donations St. Maarten Hurricane Relief	AWG 2,249.92	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
Communit Support: Food Basket Community in Need	AWG 5,799.24	AWG 0.00	AWG 15,280.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
Community Support: Mary Joan Foundation/ Stg Bob Cancer Awareness	AWG 10,000.04	AWG 12,740.50	AWG 0.00	AWG 7,912.50	AWG 0.00	
Community Support: FAVI Donation	AWG 0.00	AWG 11,585.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
Communit Support: Elderly Care Ham & Turkey/ Aruba Bo Ta Bendishona Concert, FF&E	AWG 0.00	AWG 3,288.38	AWG 0.00	AWG 72,891.25	AWG 2,250.00	
Special Support: Miky's Foundation for Special Children	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 30,403.86	AWG 0.00	
Special Support: Stg Sonrisa 2025 Calendars	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 7,975.00	AWG 625.00	
Special Support: Summer Camp Gloria "Despicable Me" Movie Teammates Kids	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 10,080.05	AWG 0.00	
TOTAL SOCIAL, SPORTS & ELDERLY WELFARE	AWG 35,849.20	AWG 47,107.52	AWG 48,426.49	AWG 173,043.40	AWG 9,440.14	AWG 313,866.75
ANIMAL WELFARE						
Special Project Animal Welfare: Horse Feeding and Bees Farms/ Bingo for Paws	AWG 12,009.66	AWG 0.00	AWG 15,280.00	AWG 11,000.00	AWG 7,500.00	
TOTAL ANIMAL WELFARE	AWG 12,009.66	AWG 0.00	AWG 15,280.00	AWG 11,000.00	AWG 7,500.00	AWG 45,789.66
ASSISTANCE WITHIN						
Special Projects: Pandemic Food Vouchers to All Teammates/ T-Shirts Giveaways	AWG 23,999.74	AWG 4,500.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
Recreational: Teammates Baseball Uniforms, Registration and Participation	AWG 24,704.62	AWG 3,470.10	AWG 0.00	AWG 3,049.00	AWG 540.00	
Teammates Support: Father's Day, Mother Day, Kick Ball, Int. Women and Men Day Giveaways	AWG 0.00	AWG 11,049.78	AWG 0.00	AWG 13,202.99	AWG 3,992.00	
Special Projects: Teammates Crisis Relief	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 26,130.01	AWG 1,000.00	AWG 9,831.04	
Divi Impact Foundation Admin Expenses: KvK Registry/ Banners/ Social Media/ Tournaments	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 4,849.10	
TOTAL ASSISTANCE WITHIN	AWG 48,704.36	AWG 19,019.88	AWG 26,130.01	AWG 17,251.99	AWG 19,212.14	AWG 130,318.38
COMMUNITY ASSITANCE (POVERTY RELIEF)						
\$1 A Day Program: Divi and Tamarijn All Inclusive	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	
\$1 A Day Program: Aruba Divi Resorts	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 315,116.96	AWG 65,000.00	
TOTAL	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 0.00	AWG 315,116.96	AWG 65,000.00	AWG 380,116.96
GRAND TOTAL COMMUNITY DONATIONS	AWG 718,771.12	AWG 192,841.93	AWG 165,304.10	AWG 683,116.17	AWG 176,256.91	AWG 1,936,292.23

HNLMS Groningen new station ship in the Caribbean Region

ORANJESTAD – HNLMS Groningen has taken over the role of station ship in the Caribbean Region. The patrol ship moored in St. Anna Bay in Willemstad on Friday morning, September 19th. The ship will patrol the region in the coming months and is also ready to be deployed for emergency relief.

The Royal Netherlands Navy has four Holland-class patrol ships. These OPVs (Ocean-Going Patrol Vessels) are flexible vessels for monitoring coastal waters. The NH90 maritime attack helicopter has returned on board to support the ship with air operations.

By having a station ship in the region, the Ministry of Defense contributes to peace and security in the Caribbean Region. □



Food culture in Aruba



(Oranjestad) – Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick “to-go” breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis (meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

Main Meal

The main meal is typically eaten in most house-

holds around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included. Stews are a staple in Aruban cuisine and can be largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands* include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening “meal” can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

(Religious) Holidays

Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on



Latin-American influences, most notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among other items. Traditional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban eggnog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with peanut butter), and homemade fruit punch. Desserts include bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesoillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

Snacks and tasty delights

Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights that you may easily find around the island. These include, Saco*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun. □

*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

*Saco: Saco literally means “bag”. Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba

A brief history of the California Light House



The California lighthouse at the Northern tip of Aruba in the Caribbean. The Ship "California" ran aground off this point, thus it's namesake. The vessel "California" was also involved in the disaster of the "Titanic".

(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curaçao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to

Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck.

These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 ki-

lometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curaçao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curaçao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the

height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon



of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations. □

CROSSWORD

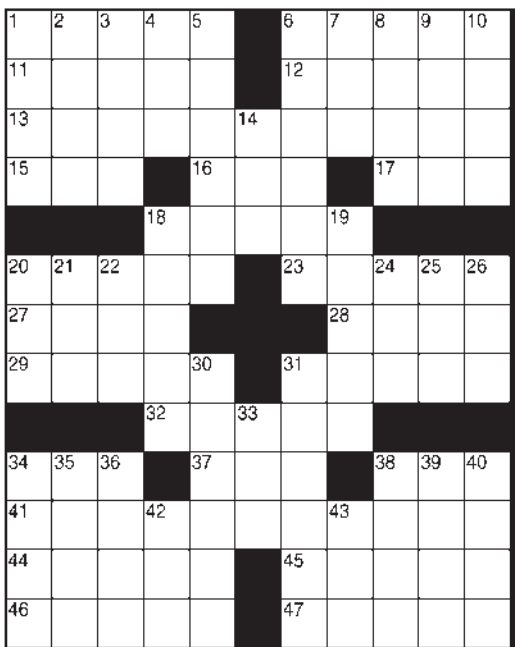
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 47 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" girl
1 Crosses the stream
6 Canadian native

DOWN 1 Salary
2 Land unit
3 "Hamilton" event
4 Schedule abbr.

15 Twisty fish
16 Total
17 Cry from Homer
18 Dice, essentially
20 Fable fellow
23 Weigh-in need
27 Secluded valley
28 Yoked animals
29 Last Greek letter
31 Avarice
32 Inert gas
34 Golfer's need
37 Talker's gift
38 Relaxing resort
41 Skims over water
44 Spring sign
45 Singer Piaf
46 Like untended gardens

19 Derision
20 In the past
21 Avenue tree
22 Notice
24 Lumber-jack's tool
25 Director Spike
26 Halt
30 Merchant ship
31 Wineglass
33 Opening
34 Turn to slush
35 Jane of fiction
36 Falco of "The Sopranos"
38 Salon sound
39 Cats and dogs
40 Pallid
42 Spectrum color
43 Uproar



9-26

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-26 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

RZ R KYJ PQFX FJC VCYTQ

ZTFN OTCYSRJW, R PVYMM

JFQ MRGC RJ GYRJ. — CNRML

IRKSRJPFJ.

Cryptoquote: SOMETIMES YOU WILL NEVER KNOW THE VALUE OF A MOMENT UNTIL IT BECOMES A MEMORY. — DR. SEUSS

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/19

Answer to previous puzzle

3	7	4	9	8	2	5	1	6
6	2	5	4	3	1	7	8	9
9	8	1	5	6	7	2	3	4
4	6	7	3	1	8	9	2	5
5	1	9	2	7	4	8	6	3
2	3	8	6	9	5	4	7	1
8	5	3	7	4	6	1	9	2
7	4	6	1	2	9	3	5	8
1	9	2	8	5	3	6	4	7

Difficulty: ★★★

9/18

Gen Z's credit scores are dropping. Here's what to do if yours is too

By ADRIANA MORGA

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Gen Z has seen its credit scores drop more than any other generation over the past year, largely because of student loan debt, according to a new report out this week.

The total national average credit score dropped two points this year to 715, according to the report from credit scoring company FICO. But Gen Z's average score dropped three points to 676, the largest year-over-year decrease among any age group since 2020.

A credit score is a mathematical formula that helps lenders determine how likely you are to pay back a loan. Credit scores are based on your credit history and range from 300 to 850.

The report found that 34% of Gen Z consumers have open student loans, compared to 17% of the total population, and the decline in credit scores is primarily due to the resumption of student loan delinquency reporting.

The U.S. Department of Education paused federal student loan payments in March 2020, offering borrowers relief during the economic chaos of the coronavirus pandemic. Though payments were set to resume in 2023, the Biden administration provided a one-year grace period that ended in October 2024.

This summer, the Trump administration restarted the collection process for outstanding student loans, with plans to seize wages and tax refunds if the loans continue to go unpaid. Roughly 5.3 million borrowers who are in default could have their wages garnished by the federal government.

Between student loans, a tough job market, and high inflation, young consumers are struggling to make payments on time, according to the report. A low credit score makes it



A woman walks past a personal finance loan office Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, in Franklin, Tenn.

Associated Press

more complicated or more expensive to obtain car loans, mortgages, credit cards, auto insurance, and other financial services.

"They've had so many different ongoing causes of economic instability that have really been with them as they've been growing up; those factors make it a lot harder for this generation to stay financially stable," said Courtney Alev, consumer advocate at Credit Karma.

However, younger consumers also have the advantage of having the most potential for score improvement, Tommy Lee, senior director at FICO.

If your credit score has

dropped recently, here are some experts' recommendations:

Don't avoid knowing your score

It's common to be afraid of checking your credit score, but it's best not to avoid it, Alev said. Knowing your current score, whether it's good or not great, can help you make a plan for the future.

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"You need to know where you stand to be able to take action," Alev said. Experian, FICO and Credit Karma are among the companies that let you check your credit score for free. □



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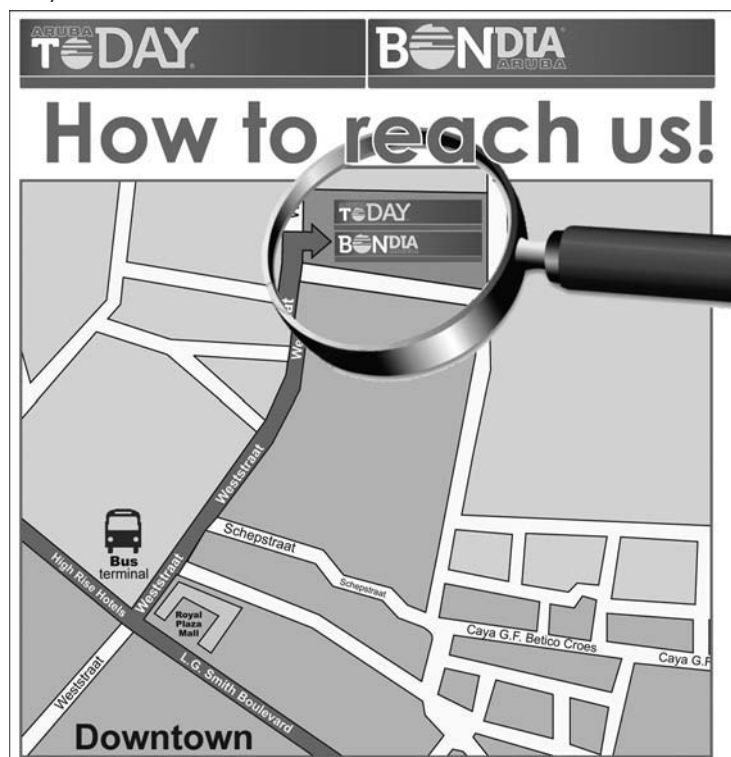
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

A summer of fashionable spoilers, from 'Devil Wears Prada 2' to 'American Love Story'

By BEATRICE DUPUY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For fashion lovers, movie spoilers aren't really about the plot. A leaked photo or paparazzi snapshot of an actor strutting in fiery red Jacquemus slingback heels or carrying a Coach handbag on set can speak volumes.

This summer, social media users were served a visual feast of photos and videos revealing costumes from the "The Devil Wears Prada 2" and "American Love Story" and found them not necessarily to their taste. Both productions filmed in the busy streets of New York, and the widely shared footage sparked conversations around the proverbial watercooler about the creative direction of their beloved characters or real-life figures like Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy. They may have been polarizing, but the costume designs had everyone talking and film industry experts say that was, perhaps, the point. Brand analytics firm Launchmetrics reported that photos of designs from the brand Gabriela Hearst, including a colorful patchwork maxi dress pictured in the leaked photos of actor Anne Hathaway, generated more impact than the brand's recent fall/winter Paris fashion week show, after all.

Buying into the spoilers

Before social media, set photos of an actor in costume would often be staged and sent to news outlets to control the narrative and create buzz, said Sofia Sondervan-Bild, a film producer and adjunct film instructor at the New York University Tisch School of the Arts. Now, the videos and photos that flood social media are often outside productions' control. On Instagram and TikTok, users are dedicating accounts to the fashion in the set photos and creating posts discussing spoilers. Newman Parker, 25, a fashion influencer and longtime fan of "The Devil Wears



Cast members from left to right, Stanley Tucci, Meryl Streep, Adrian Grenier, Anne Hathaway, and Emily Blunt, pose for photographers during the red carpet arrivals for the New York premiere of the film titled "The Devil Wears Prada," Monday, June 19, 2006.

Prada," started a TikTok series identifying all the bags featured in the photos and where to source them. Commenters on his posts have chimed in with helpful tips on some of the rarer vintage finds. For fans of the 2006 movie, the leaked photos of the sequel have only fueled their desire to see it.

"I really just hope that the garments are beautiful on screen and that there are some looks that we haven't seen," he said. "I'm hungry for something that hasn't been spoiled."

Parker said one of his favorite looks from the set photos shows Hathaway, who plays Andy Sachs, in the multicolored Gabriela Hearst maxi dress with a bucket hat. Some criticized the look online for being too trendy for Andy. (In the first movie, she's a journalist disinterested in fashion who transforms into a fashionista while working at the fictitious Runway magazine under Meryl Streep's Miranda Priestly.)

For the sequel, Molly Rogers, who previously worked with the first movie's fashion designer Patricia Field, has taken on the costume design. Rogers' bold design choices for the TV series

"And Just Like That" caused quite the stir, much like the leaked set photos of "The Devil Wears Prada 2." Rogers told The New York Post that she felt fans would get burned out by all the paparazzi shots before seeing the film. Surely, social media users were caught off guard by photos of Meryl Streep dressed in character, carrying a bedazzled pink water bottle it seemed Miranda Priestly would not be caught dead with.

"I'm willing to give some grace and some hope, but also, I would not be a true fan if I didn't say, after the 'And Just Like That'-ification of 'Sex and the City,' I'm a little nervous about what went wrong," Parker said. "I think only time will tell."

Costume designers are tasked with creating an authentic closet for their characters, said Deborah Nadoolman Landis, founding director of UCLA's David C. Copley Center for the Study of Costume Design. Landis, who has worked on the sets of "Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Coming to America," said leaked photos lack the context of the overall screenplay.

"When we see somebody on the street, we have no

idea what the dramatic context is," she said. "How long it's going to be on screen, whether we're just going to see the top, whether she is or they are sitting behind a desk."

Capturing an icon

Unlike period dramas where niche experts can offer their criticism on the style of dress of centuries-old eras, the more recent past opens the door for a wider audience to weigh in sartorially.

First-look and paparazzi photos of Ryan Murphy's "American Love Story" led to an outcry on social media with their release. The forthcoming TV show explores the high-profile relationship between Bessette-Kennedy and John F. Kennedy Jr. before their death in a 1999 plane crash. The it girl's effortlessly minimalist '90s style has endured, enamoring even younger generations of fashionistas. Ann Caruso, celebrity stylist and brand consultant, first met Bessette-Kennedy when they were both living in Boston.

"If you look back at the minimalism of the '90s and what Carolyn was wearing, it was like this effortless chic and the monochromatic palettes, her perfectly

cut slip dresses, the men's shirts," Caruso said. "It was all quiet luxury before the term existed now."

Friends who remembered Bessette-Kennedy and even fashion critics were quick to note their disappointment over the first-look photos of actor Sarah Pidgeon, calling out the size of the Hermès Birkin bag on her arm, the color of her hair and the style of coat she was pictured in.

"I was actually really angry, and I just felt like she was she made such an impression on the world with her fashion," Caruso said. "They seemed to really get JFK Jr. and to not get her along with him is just such a disappointment."

In defense of the costume design, Murphy spoke to Puck News acknowledging that he had no idea that "people cared as much as they do."

Jack Sehnert, a New York design executive, began running @carolynbessette, an Instagram account, dedicated to the style muse in 2015. Sehnert said that while "American Love Story" didn't get the first-look photos right, he has since seen a change in more recent photos.

"I do think that we're about to see a barrage of artistic license taken on who she was, how she dressed, because what's kind of exciting is we're moving into this new field where she is a Princess Diana, she is Jackie Kennedy, and she's looked at as such," he said. □



Despite losing Caitlin Clark and other key players to injury, Fever still reach WNBA semifinals

By **MICHAEL MAROT**
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana Fever finally got a chance to celebrate Thursday night in Atlanta.

A smiling Caitlin Clark, dressed again in street clothes, rushed the court to hug her teammates. The tone in coach Stephanie White's voice changed between the first two questions of her postgame news conference. And three-time All-Star guard Kelsey Mitchell recounted her journey here, to her first WNBA semifinal appearance the one nobody saw coming just a few weeks ago.

Yes, this team defied the odds by playing their way with grit, resilience and an uncanny ability to adapt to any obstacle that threatened to derail their post-season aspirations.

"I've had so many coaches in eight years, I've been on the worst record teams in the Indiana Fever (history), so I know where my career started at," Mitchell said after the sixth-seeded Fever rallied in the final minute to beat the third-seeded Dream 87-85 in a decisive Game 3. "I know what I've had to go through to kind of be in this position, and I've never had a coach that poured into me respectfully, like Steph has. I've never felt that as a pro."

The truth is White needed Mitchell every bit as much, maybe even more, than Mitchell needed that tight bond with the league's



Indiana Fever guard Caitlin Clark, center, reacts after a score to take the lead over the Atlanta Dream during the second half of Game 3 in the first round of the WNBA basketball playoffs, Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

2023 Coach of the Year.

It wasn't supposed to go this way after general manager Amber Cox spent the offseason pulling together a strong, deep and championship-experienced supporting cast around Clark, the 2024 Rookie of the Year, to turn Indiana into a title contender. But nothing went according to plan.

ix-time All-Star forward DeWanna Bonner made only three starts and played in just nine games before she was released.

The seemingly indestructible Clark sat out one pre-season game with a left leg injury, missed five more with an injured left quadriceps and four more with a left

groin injury before hurting her right groin near the end of a July 15 game at Connecticut that would eventually end her season.

Guards Sydney Colson and Aari McDonald suffered season-ending injuries in the same Aug. 7 game at Phoenix and just when guard Sophie Cunningham started taking off, she suffered a season-ending right knee injury Aug. 17 at Connecticut, leaving the Fever without a natural point guard for the final month of the regular season.

But with their playoff hopes teetering, the snakebitten Fever found an unexpected answer to that massive hole relying on All-Star cen-

ter Aliyah Boston's evolving passing game and watching Mitchell thriving as both a ball distributor and the team's top scorer at 20.2 points per game.

"This group is just really special," White said. "We say it pretty much ad nauseum, but it's the resilience, the flexibility, the welcoming and inclusive nature of this team, their selflessness to pull for the we over the me, to let each teammate be who they are and shine at their best and to lift them up. In those moments, you know, I think that's good for 12 or 15 points. It just is, and you couple that with the resilience, the toughness, the grit, the fight, the scrap-

piness and you always give yourself a chance."

They proved it by winning the league's Commissioner Cup title without Clark and again by closing the regular season with five wins in their final seven games, including each of the last three, to earn the No. 6 seed.

They did it again by rebounding from an 80-68 Game 1 loss by winning two elimination games 77-60 on their home court and then back in Atlanta by scoring the final seven points, thanks in large part to five double-digit scorers and Lexie Hull's steal with 4.8 seconds to play.

"I'm grateful and happy to be back in the semifinals again," said Natasha Howard, who started her career in 2015 with Indiana before winning three WNBA titles and was selected the league's 2019 Defensive Player of the Year. "I'm just so excited that we're back here again with this group of young women and the job is not done yet."

Next up is a best-of-five series that begins Sunday in Las Vegas against three-time MVP A'ja Wilson, an Aces franchise that captured WNBA crowns in 2022 and 2023 and a team that won its final 16 regular season games to finish second and rebounded from its first loss in 44 days by beating Seattle in Game 3.

Could they come up with one more surprise? Don't count Indiana out. □

Bengals QB Joe Burrow undergoes surgery on injured left toe

CINCINNATI (AP) — Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow underwent surgery on his injured left toe, coach Zac Taylor said after Friday's practice.

Taylor told reporters that the surgery went well, but he did not have a timeline on how long Burrow will be out.

The sixth-year quarterback was injured during the second quarter of last week's game against Jacksonville and was placed on injured reserve on Tuesday. That puts Burrow out at least four games but preliminary estimates have him sidelined up to three months because of the turf toe injury.

This is Burrow's third major injury in his six seasons since being the top overall pick in the 2020 draft.

Jake Browning will be the starter in Burrow's absence as the Bengals look for their first 3-0 start since 2015 on Sunday at Minnesota. Brett Rypien will be Browning's backup. The Bengals also declared rookie defensive end Shemar Stewart out for Sunday's game because of an ankle injury. Cornerback Cam Taylor-Britt (hamstring) is doubtful after missing the last two days of practice and CB DJ Turner II (hamstring) is questionable. □



Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow (9) grimaces after being sacked by Jacksonville Jaguars defensive tackle Arik Armstead (91) during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

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Lyles wins his fourth 200-meter world title. Jefferson-Wooden completes a sprint sweep

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
AP National Writer

TOKYO (AP) — There were no staredowns, shoves or heated words after this win for Noah Lyles.

Just four fingers thrust into the air when he crossed the finish line one for each time he's won the world title in his favorite race, the 200 meters.

Lyles pulled ahead of his American rival Kenny Bednarek heading into the straightaway Friday night, then held him off down the stretch to win in 19.52 seconds and equal Usain Bolt's worlds title haul in the half-lap sprint.

Instead of exchanging glares and shoves with Bednarek the way it happened last month at U.S. championships Lyles looked relatively calm, thrusting his fingers into the sky after his .06-second victory and shouting "That's four, baby!" into the TV camera.

"This," Lyles said, "is a very big win."

Minutes after he won, Melissa Jefferson-Wooden completed the first women's 100-200 double at worlds since Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce in 2013, winning in 21.68 seconds. It was a .46-second margin over surprise silver medalist Amy Hunt of Britain. It also made Jefferson-Wooden the first American to complete the double at worlds.

"I didn't come into this knowing the history," she said. "Now, I'm putting two-and-two together and I'm kinda freaking out."



United States' Noah Lyles crosses the line to win gold ahead of United States' Kenneth Bednarek, silver, and Jamaica's Bryan Levell, bronze, in the men's 200 meters final at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Friday, Sept. 19, 2025.

In the men's race, Bryan Levell of Jamaica finished third and Olympic champion Letsile Tebogo was fourth.

This was among the most-anticipated showdowns of the worlds, one that's been in the making for the last seven weeks or four years depending how you look at it.

In 2021, Lyles was suffering after months in a COVID lockdown and came to Tokyo admittedly depressed. Lining up in a near-empty stadium, he ran his semifinal poorly, landed Lane 2 for the final, and ended up with a bronze medal that he stored away, using it as fuel for what was to come. More recently, there was his victory at nationals, punctuated by a stare-

down of Bednarek, then Bednarek's shoving Lyles as they crossed the finish line. "It was something where, guys are guys, you put two alpha-males in a room, you're going to get alpha-male stuff," said Lyles' coach, Lance Brauman. Lyles also dealt with injuries all season, which played a role in his third-place finish in the 100 earlier in the week a race he came into as defending champion. "Let's do what we always do"

In the 200, Lyles didn't start perfectly but never panicked. He was in second place as he hit the turn, but that didn't bother him.

"If I'm anywhere near the front of the pack coming off the turn, in my head, I'm like 'This is easier than

what I used to have to do,'" Lyles said, mentioning his struggles when he first got serious about the 200. "It's never an idea of 'I'm back here there's so much work to do,' it's 'OK, I've been here before, let's do what we always do.'"

He did, catching Bednarek as they hit the stretch, opening a two-step lead on him with about 50 meters left, then holding on for the win.

By doing it, Lyles wrote the latest chapter in a title run that began in 2019 in Doha, Qatar, but has hardly been a straight line.

He said nothing can make up for not winning the 200s at either of the Olympics that have spanned his career.

Last year, he ran the 200

with COVID and finished third, behind Bednarek and Tebogo.

"You have to get it right that day every four years," Lyles said. "I don't think any amount of world championships in the 200 will ever replace the empty feeling" from not winning the Olympics.

Bednarek, likely to be Lyles' relay partner in the 4x100 final Sunday if the Americans make it, had previously said all the tension between the country's top two male sprinters had been smoothed over. His guarantee of beating Lyles, made in the heat of the moment in Oregon well, that didn't work out.

"Every single year, I'm learning to improve on different things, understand things a little more," Bednarek said. Lyles is a student of this game, too and with four titles, he's now cemented on the list of its all-time greats. "The reference we were using is 'jump out of a plane,'" Lyles said of chats with his therapist to get him ready for this return trip to Tokyo. "You either do it or don't. And if you don't jump out of the plane you're not going to win the race."

World-record watch in heptathlon

Watch out, Jackie Joyner-Kersey. Heptathlete Anna Hall is in pursuit of your world-championship record. Maybe even your world record.

Joyner-Kersey set the world championships record of 7,128 points in 1987. □